

REMARKS

Claims 11-33 are pending, with Claims 11 and 31 being independent claims.

The Examiner rejects Claims 11-33 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,360,230 to Chan et al. (hereinafter, referred to as "Chan"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Chan discloses a system and method for providing a directory service for accessing a plurality of directory services in a uniform matter. A directory service provides information on computer or network resources that makes them accessible to multiple users or multiple applications. Chan provides a type of "super" directory service that includes a root namespace container, which in turn contains the namespace of the various available directory services and its respective schema (see Chan, col. 6, lines 33-47). In this way, uniform access to various different directory services, with different object naming conventions is achievable through a single, "super" directory service (see Chan, col. 6, lines 48-65).

The Examiner states that Chan teaches dynamically generating a class, making reference to col. 9, lines 25-45. However, Applicants note that the referenced portion of Chan discloses a "function [that] dynamically generates [a] class identifier" and not an object class, which is entirely different.

The Examiner states it would have been obvious to modify a class to be a *global generic class* as claimed. Yet, there is no suggestion or indication by Chan to do such. In addition, the Examiner does not explain where in Chan a *generic class* is taught. As is explained in the subject application, global generic classes and generic classes are not equivalent. As will be discussed herein, generic classes are used in the creation of global generic classes.

To maintain a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the Examiner has the burden of

establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness. This includes identifying something in the prior art that suggested the desirability of the modifications. *In re Fritch*, 972 F.2d 1260, 1266, 23 USPQ2d 1780, 1783-84 (Fed. Cir. 1992). The Examiner has made no attempt to satisfy this burden, and the rejection should be withdrawn as a matter of course.

The entirety of the Examiner's reasoning for the proposed modification is "[I]t would have been obvious to modify a class to be a global generic class as claimed." This is not a sustainable rejection because it does not identify anything in the prior art that suggested the desirability of the modification. Under *In re Fritch*, the Examiner's rejection should be withdrawn.

Inasmuch as Chan fails to teach or suggest the dynamic generation of a generic global object class as recited in the claims of the instant invention, or even a generic class used to create a global generic class, the present invention is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the Chan reference.

Furthermore, the Examiner admits that Chan does not teach creating a global generic class in section 1 of the Office Action. The Examiner then states that it would have been obvious to modify a class to be a global generic class. Applicants do not understand how this could have been obvious, as Chan makes no mention of any type of generic classes. The class identifiers generated in Chan are merely used to name directories. However, the present invention is directed to a method of automatically generating an object class by instantiating a global generic class, wherein the global generic class has at least one member which itself is an instance of a generic class, the generic class being either a generic method class or a generic attribute class.

The present invention may be best explained with reference to Fig. 7 and Page 9, lines 16-23 of the subject specification. Class "Class1" is an instance of the global

generic class "GenericClass" and has an attribute "Attribute1" and a method "Method1", itself having a parameter "Param1," all three of which are instances of three respective generic classes.

The claims of the present invention require a "generic" class. As is described in the present specification at page 6, line 27 – page 7, line 8, the generic class could be a "Generic Attribute" class having as attributes:

- the name of the attribute
- the description of the attribute
- either the type of the attribute or the possible values of the attribute
- the default value of the attribute and
- the real values of the attribute

As is described in the present specification at page 7, line 29 through page 8, line 18, the generic class could also be a "Generic Method" class having as attributes:

- name
- description
- return type
- parameter
- execution script.

The claims in the present application have been amended to require that the generic class used to create the global generic class have at least a "name" attribute. Chan does not disclose any type of generic classes, much less a generic class with this attribute.

Finally, the Examiner asserts that Chan teaches dialog boxes and a control interface as required by claims 17, 18, 30, 32, and 33. However, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, no mention of dialog boxes or any type of interface is

mentioned anywhere in the Chan reference. The Examiner replies on a “functional set” described in Col. 15, line 37 to teach dialog boxes. A functional set is not a dialog box. An example of a dialog box in the present invention is shown in as dialog box 23 in Fig. 3. Obviously, this is not a “functional set”.

The Examiner relies on mention of user log in, account statistics in Col. 15, lines 35-45 in Chan to teach a “command interface”. As described in the present specification, a command interface is part of the command module 12 described on Page 17, lines 4-31. The command module is used to obtain document interfaces from the interface base. It has nothing to do with user logins or account statistics.

Summary

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended. Claims 11-33 are pending, with Claims 11 and 31 being the only independent claims.

Should the Examiner believe that further amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, or if the Examiner believes that a personal interview would be advantageous in order to more expeditiously resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants’ undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

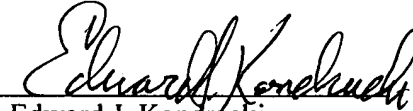
To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with this application, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (Attorney Docket No T2147-906524) and credit any excess fees to the same Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MILES & STOCKBRIDGE P.C.

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